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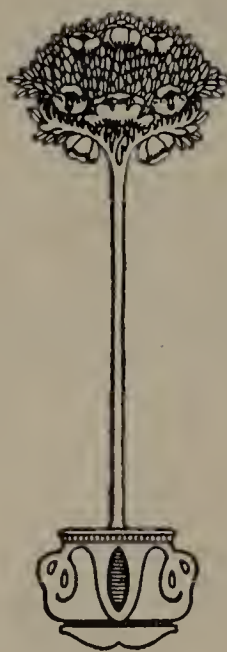
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AND it came to pass before the close of the eighteenth century, it being noticeable that for a large part of the year the nights were long, that the people arose and said "Let there be light," and, behold, in the homes and on the roads of the Village of Brownville, Me., there was light. And the dwellers thereof were exceeding glad for few of the smaller places in the Land of Maine had Electric Lights at that time. ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴



Brownville Electric Light & Power Co.

HISTORY *of* BROWNVILLE

1824 - 1924

COMPILED AND EDITED

BY

JUDSON AND HENRY GERRISH



1924

F. D. BARROWS, PRINTER,

DOVER-FOXCROFT, ME.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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DEDICATION

To the early settlers to whom our gratitude is due for the comforts and privileges of our town, we dedicate this "Centennial Book."

History of Brownville

MUCH of the history of Brownville prior to the beginning of the nineteenth century is unknown. From Loring's "History of Piscataquis County" we learn that Brownville was Number 5, Range 8, with an area of 21,320 acres. This is one of a range of townships run out by Samuel Weston in 1794. On account of its fine forests and many streams favorable for log-driving, land buyers soon flocked thither. One of these, Samuel Fowler, bought the entire range in 1795 for 2964 pounds, under the conditions that he would have forty families settled on it within eight years. He was unable to pay the price agreed upon and the land reverted to the state. The next purchaser was Joseph Blake who employed Park Holland to lot out the land in 1803. Mr. Holland did his own surveying in 1805 and, as a result of his work, Messrs. Brown and Hills bought the land and commenced its settlement.

Brownville consists mostly of rocky ridges, rich in slate quarries which for many years helped to build up the town and which will, no doubt, in years to come, be one of the leading industries, as the slate is of the finest quality. Pleasant River which runs through the town is well named. Not only is it a river lined on both sides with pleasant groves, but it also affords excellent mill sites.

The earliest records tell us that Hiram Heath was the first man to make an opening through this great wilderness. This was in the northern part of the town, in what we now call North Brownville. It is quite probable that there were settlers here before that time but no names or places of settlement can be found. In the spring of 1806, Francis Brown was sent by Brown and Hills to build a dam and mills on Pleasant river. These mills which have since been destroyed by fire, were situated on the east bank of the river. The tools, mill irons and provisions for the workmen were brought by boat from Bangor. The men

worked so diligently that by fall both a saw and grist-mill were in operation. These were the second mills built in Piscataquis County, the first being at ~~Foxcroft~~. Sebec

The settlers then began to come in, fifty acres of land being given to those coming first. The same fall that the mills were completed, 1806, Maj. Hills, one of the proprietors, moved in to take charge. He sold his share, however, after a few years and moved his family to a farm in the newly settled territory where he died in 1810.

In 1808, the first practicing physician, Dr. Isaac Wilkins, moved in, occupying the farm now owned by E. C. Ryder. He remained until his death in 1820. He raised a family ~~of four or five girls and as many boys, the eldest~~, Sydney, being the first living white child born in the new territory. Descendants of the Wilkins brothers still claim Brownville as their home land.

The same year which brought Dr. Wilkins to Brownville also brought the first clergyman, Rev. Hezekiah May, who was sustained by the proprietors. Mr. May not only preached but he taught the first school as well. He was the first Congregationalist minister to enter the county. He partly cleared the place now called the Brown place and built a small frame house upon it. In 1814 he sold out to Deacon Francis Brown and moved from the state.

From the day of his arrival, Francis Brown figured largely in the affairs of the plantation and later of the town. He lived on the hill which now bears his name in the house built by Rev. Hezekiah May. At one time according to early town reports he was elected to most of the town offices, Town Clerk, Selectman, Tax Collector, Treasurer, School Agent and School Committee. Other names closely associated with Francis Brown's during the early years were Ichabod Thomas, the Ryders, the Morrills, the Smiths, James Rankin, Samuel Stickney, Elisha Johnson and many others.

Thus the town grew rapidly until in 1810 it numbered 131 inhabitants. From 1810 to 1820 there was not much gain, only 41 being added, making a population of 172.

June 29, 1819, Brownville was organized as a plantation, remaining so until 1824 when it was incorporated as the town of Brownville, taking its name from the early Browns, Moses and his family.

Act of Incorporation.

(This is an exact copy from the "Records of The Town of Brownville" Vol. 1).

Town of Brownville, State of Maine.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty four.

An act to incorporate the town of Brownville.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled—That the plantation number five in the eighth range in the County of Penobscot, bounded west by Williamsburg, south by Milo, east by number six in the eighth range, and north by Boston Township, with the inhabitants thereinof, be, and they are hereby incorporated into a Town by the name of Brownville and the inhabitants of said town are hereby vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities, which the inhabitants of towns within this State, do, or may by law enjoy.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, That any Justice of the Peace within this County, is hereby empowered to issue his warrant to some inhabitant of said town directing him to notify the inhabitants thereinof, to meet at such time and place as he shall appoint to choose such officers as other towns are empowered to choose at their annual town meetings.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, That the said town of Brownville shall be entitled to vote in the choice of Representatives to the Legislature of this State in the same class, and, in the same manner as it was allowed and authorized to do previous to the passing of this act, and shall continue a part of the class aforesaid until otherwise provided by law.

Benjamin Green Speaker.

In Senate, February 3rd, 1824. This bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted

Benjamin Ames President

February 3rd 1824 Approved

Albion K. Parris.

Elected Francis Brown Treasurer

" Eli Hamblet Constable

Voted that the Treasurer be collector and shall receive six per cent for doing the duty of both the offices.

Voted a discount of four per cent on all town taxes paid in thirty days after being notified.

Voted a discount of two per cent on all the town taxes paid in sixty days after being notified.

Elected Eli Hamblet , Reuben Mayo, Jotham Ryder, George Smith and George Wilkins Surveyors of Highway.

Elected John Whidden, Nicholas Berry Surveyors of Lumber.

Elected Ichabod Thomas, Reuben Mayo, David Soule, Isaiah Ryder, Nicholas Berry, Elisha Johnson and Reuben Mayo Tithingmen.

Elected Samuel Kenison, Jonah Thomas, Chase H. Page, Reuben Mayo and George Smith Hogsreaves.

Elected Ichabod Thomas Pound Keeper.

Elected Simon Brown, John Whidden and Nicholas Berry Field Drivers.

Elected John Ford, John Willard and Isaiah Ryder Fence Viewers.

Elected Francis Brown, John Ford, Levi Page and George Smith School Agents.

Elected James Rankin, Ichabod Thomas, Joseph Davis, John Whidden and Nicholas Berry Fish Wards.

Elected Francis Brown, John Willard and Joseph Davis School Committee.

Voted to excuse John Ford and elected Reuben Mayo Fence Viewer in his stead

A true copy

Francis Brown Town Clerk.

Following is as correct a list of tax payers for the year 1824 as we are able to find, the town record of same having been lost:

John Ford, Jotham Ryder, John Rankin, Nathan Ryder. Isaac Mayo, Eli Hamblet, John Whidden, John Willard, Isaiah Ryder, Allen Mayo, Jesse Rogers, Silas Howard, Josiah Emerson, John Heath, George Wilkins, Nathaniel Smith, Levi Morrill, Noah Smith, Rev. John Sawyer, Levi Page, Daniel Smith, Ichabod Thomas, Jonathan Marble, Shepard Rogers, John H. Morrill, Reuben Mayo, Joseph Davis, John Thomas, George Smith, Josiah Emerson, Elisha Johnson, Nicholas Berry, John Jones, Lemuel Crockett, William H. Page, Isaac M. Eaton.

Town Officials.

SELECTMEN

- 1824 Francis Brown, Ichabod Thomas, Joseph Davis.
1825 Francis Brown, Joseph Davis, Reuben Mayo..
1826-1830 Francis Brown, Joseph Davis, Reuben Mayo.
1830 Francis Brown, Samuel Gilman, Jonah Thomas.
1831 Francis Brown, Joseph Davis, Samuel Gilman.
1832 Eliot Powers, Jr., John Jaquith, Cotton W. Harper.
1833 Francis Brown, Joseph Davis, Jonah Thomas.
1834 Francis Brown, Joseph Gowin, Charles R. Hamblet.
1835 Francis Brown, Joseph Gowin, Jonah Thomas.
1836 Francis Brown, Jonah Thomas, Joseph Gowin.
1837 Francis Brown, Jonah Thomas, Samuel Gilman.
1838 Francis Brown, Jefferson Lake, William Farris.
1839 Jefferson Lake, Samuel Gilman, Rufus Robbins.
1840 Francis Brown, Eleazer Jenks, Jonah Thomas.
1841
1842 Francis Brown, Eleazer Jenks, Jonah Thomas.
1843 Francis Brown, Jonah Thomas, John Willard.
1844 Francis Brown, Eleazer Jenks, Phineas Morrill.
1845 Francis Brown, Gilman Ryder, Zadoc A. Waterhouse.
1846 Francis Brown, Joseph Davis, Gilman Ryder.
1847 Joseph Davis, John Thomas, Reuben N. Stowell.
1848 Eleazer Jenks, Joseph Davis, Amasiah Wedgewood.
1849 Eleazer A. Jenks, John Thomas, Benjamin Snow.
1850 E. A. Jenks, John Thomas, Henry F. Morrill.
1851 Joseph Davis, H. F. Morrill, Reuben Mayo.
1852 E. A. Jenks, Jonathan Harvey, Nelson T. Smith.
1853 E. A. Jenks, John Thomas, Seth W. Merrill.
1854 E. A. Jenks, Wm. W. Willard, N. T. Smith.
1855 E. A. Jenks, Benj. F. Snow, Reuben N. Stowell.
1856 Jacob W. Haines, Wm. W. Willard, N. T. Smith.
1857 E. A. Jenks, Wm. W. Willard, N. T. Smith.
1858 E. A. Jenks, Samuel Gilman, F. W. Brown.
1859 Joseph Davis, Samuel Gilman, Charles L. Dunning.
1860 E. A. Jenks, Charles L. Dunning, F. W. Brown.
1861 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, Joseph W. Davis.
1862 E. A. Jenks, F. W. Brown, Samuel Gilman.

- 1863 S. A. Smith, F. W. Brown, B. F. Snow.
1864 E. A. Jenks, F. W. Brown, C. F. Davis.
1865 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, S. W. Merrill.
1866 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, C. F. Davis.
1867-1868 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, Daniel Wilkins.
1869 E. A. Jenks, Horace B. Nason, Gideon C. Barton.
1870 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, G. C. Barton.
1871-1872 C. L. Dunning, F. W. Brown, R. G. Tibbetts.
1873 F. W. Brown, E. P. Fifield, R. G. Tibbetts.
1874 F. W. Brown, R. G. Tibbetts, Judson Briggs.
1875 F. W. Brown, T. W. Davis, D. C. Billings.
1876-1877 H. B. Nason, C. F. Davis, N. T. Smith.
1878 H. B. Nason, N. T. Smith, J. F. Bean.
1879 H. B. Nason, N. T. Smith, M. S. Berry.
1880 H. B. Nason, N. T. Smith, Wm. Tufts.
1881 H. B. Nason, J. W. Davis, D. C. Billings.
1882 H. B. Nason, J. W. Davis, C. T. Wells.
1883 C. T. Wells, R. G. Tibbetts, R. Griffith.
1884 C. T. Wells, R. G. Tibbetts, E. E. Williams.
1885 H. B. Nason, C. T. Wells, Nelson T. Smith.
1886 C. F. Davis, C. C. Gilman, Geo. G. Brown.
1887 F. W. Brown, G. C. Barton, R. G. Tibbetts.
1888 Chas. L. Dunning, E. H. Poole, T. W. Billings.
1889 C. L. Dunning, C. S. Davis, G. C. Barton.
1890 C. L. Dunning, G. C. Barton, C. S. Davis.
1891 C. L. Dunning, A. B. Berry, A. N. Smith.
1892 A. B. Berry, E. M. Johnston, G. W. McClain.
1893 C. F. Davis, A. B. Berry, G. W. McClain.
1894 C. F. Davis, A. B. Berry, G. H. Wish.
1895-1896 C. L. Dunning, R. G. Tibbetts, A. O. Manuel.
1897 C. L. Dunning, G. H. Wish, E. M. Johnston.
1898 C. L. Dunning, A. O. Manuel, R. G. Tibbetts.
1899-1900 E. L. Chase, A. O. Manuel, J. W. Davis.
1901 E. L. Chase, G. W. McClain, E. H. Poole.
1902 E. L. Chase, E. B. Barton, A. O. Manuel.
1903 E. M. Johnston, P. M. Jones, E. B. Barton.
1904 E. M. Johnston, Geo. W. McClain, E. S. Howard.
1905 E. L. Chase, E. G. Ryder, W. C. Wells.
1906 E. M. Johnston, E. G. Ryder, W. C. Wells.
1907-1908 E. M. Johnston, E. G. Ryder, W. C. Wells.
1909 E. G. Ryder, E. S. Howard, W. A. Crozier.

- 1910 E. G. Ryder, W. C. Wells, W. A. Crozier.
- 1911 George W. McClain, E. S. Howard, C. S. Stickney.
- 1912 W. A. Crozier, W. E. Brown, E. S. Johnston.
- 1913-1914 W. A. Crozier, E. G. Ryder, L. F. Johnson.
- 1915-1916 W. A. Crozier, H. E. Rogers, J. F. Hughes.
- 1917 C. H. Dunning, A. O. Manuel, P. A. Ryder.
- 1918-1919 C. H. Dunning, W. F. McCann, A. W. Searles.
- 1920 H. E. Rogers, J. F. Hughes, A. R. Stanhope.
- 1921 J. F. Hughes, W. A. Crozier, C. G. Esterbrook.
- 1922 W. A. Crozier, C. G. Esterbrook, J. F. Hughes.
- 1923 W. A. Crozier, J. F. Hughes, Richard H. Hughes.
- 1924 W. A. Crozier, Leonard West, Frank Stone.

TOWN CLERKS

- 1824-1844 Francis Brown.
- 1844-1855 E. A. Jenks.
- 1856-1859; 1861-1862 Moses W. Brown.
- 1860, 1863-1875; 1877-1886 Samuel A. Smith.
- 1876 F. M. Morrill.
- 1887-1910 E. H. Poole.
- 1910 F. E. Jones.
- 1911-1914 E. L. Chase.
- 1914-1924 F. E. Jones, T. L. Foulkes.

TOWN TREASURERS

- 1824-1844 Francis Brown.
- 1844-1849 E. A. Jenks.
- 1850-1851 Joseph Davis.
- 1852-1855 Zadoc A. Waterhouse.
- 1856 Moses W. Brown.
- 1857-1883 Francis W. Brown.
- 1884-1896 J. W. Davis.
- 1897-1900; 1903-1904 G. G. Brown.
- 1901-1902 E. A. Chase.
- 1905-1909 E. S. Howard.
- 1909-1913 O. H. Williams.
- 1913-1918 E. S. Johnston.
- 1918 L. F. Johnson.
- 1919 E. L. Chase.
- 1920-1924 C. S. Stickney.

Military History

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The Brownville soldiers, who served in the Revolutionary War, were Isaac Mayo, Samuel Stickney, Ichabod Thomas and John Gerrish.

Isaac Mayo was a native of Barnstable, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War. He is buried in Brownville.

Samuel Stickney was born in Rowley, Massachusetts, May 13, 1762. He enlisted July 6, 1778. He came to Brownville in 1809, where he died in 1835.

Ichabod Thomas was born either in 1758 or 1759. He served one year in the Revolutionary War. He died in Brownville in 1845.

John Gerrish was born in Berwick, 1756. He died in Brownville probably at the home of his son, Hiram Gerrish, in 1831.

WAR OF 1812

Brownville had four soldiers in the War of 1812. They were George Smith, Nathaniel Smith, Daniel Smith and John Heath, who also served in the Aroostook War.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Hartley Berry, son of Albert Berry, fought in the Spanish and American War. He is buried at Brownville.

B. Frank Rollins, son of Joseph Rollins, is another Spanish and American veteran buried in the Brownville cemetery.

CIVIL WAR

"In peace sublime above us,
Unseen they wait and love us;
And there we hope to meet them
In Heaven's peace to greet them
Though dead they live to memory dear,
The nation's dead are resting here."

—REV. L. S. COAN

When the first call for volunteers came from President Lincoln, at the beginning of the Civil War Moses Brown gathered a band

of recruits and began drilling them on the village green. According to the late Mathew S. Berry, this company of fifty-four men, called the Brownville Rifles, were the first from this place to obey the call. They left town May 1st. The second company of thirty men left on the first day of November, just six months later and to this company Mathew Berry, then a lad of 17 years, belonged.

The following is a list of Brownville soldiers made out by E. A. Jenks shortly after the war.

Albert Berry
 Loumus Berry
 Charles Berry
 Mathew S. Berry
 John E. Gould
 Isaiah Gould
 Luther M. Gerrish ~~Emerson~~
 Emerson Gerrish
 Thornton Howard
 Moses Howard
 Silas Howard
 Eleazer Howard
 Arthur Howard
 Calvin Howard
 Benjamin Harris
 Solon B. Heath
 Isaac M. Heath
 Joseph B. Hamblet
 Richard Hughes
 William G. Jones
 Rufus O. Page
 Lyman Packard
 John M. Prescott
 Lewis F. Rogers
 William F. Rogers
 William S. Rogers
 William G. B. Rogers
 Charles B. Rogers
 Edward S. Rogers
 Charles F. Rogers *Rankin*
 Isaiah L. Ryder

Albion C. Spearin
 George M. Smith
 George W. Smith
 Daniel Smith
 Charles Stowell
 Joseph ~~M~~^N Stowell
 Amos Stanchfield
 Chauncey Stanchfield
 Benjamin A. Stanchfield
 John O. Stanchfield
 John B. ~~O~~^T Thomas
 John Willard
 Wilbert M. Willard
 John E. Wedgewood
 Roswell C. Wedgewood
 Moses ~~O~~^P Wedgewood
 Alvin Morrill
 Shepard D. Morrill
 Charles W. Morrill
 Austin Heath
 Gilbert N. Brown
 George W. Emerson
 Otis Packard
 David Owen
 Edwin Fogg
 Charles Fogg
 Uriel L. Clark
 William Hughes
 Calvin B. Heath *In pencil*
 Samuel Crocker
 Isaac J. Marble

HISTORY OF BROWNVILLE

John M. Ryder	George W. Stone
Samuel Parker	W. A. Gould
Ephraim Rogers	John Howard
Thomas W. Billings	Jeremiah Tozier
David B. Nason	Capt. M. W. Brown
William A. Calkins	Lieut. Lyman H. Wilkins
Henry Saunders	Lieut. Isaac M. Morrill
Elnathan Heath	Lieut. Nelson T. Smith
Albert Howard	Capt. J. F. Dunning
F. B. Howard <i>diff. writing</i>	

In addition to the list of soldiers by E. A. Jenks the Augusta records show the following names:

John Rollins	George W. Emerson
Gideon Pond	Daniel B. Nason
Roscoe Tibbetts	William Gould
Sydney A. Allen	Joseph Harris
Horatio G. Powers	Alvin O. Page
Clarence E. Pullen	Oscar Blunt
Andrew Page	B. F. Snow
Edwin Ewer	Isaac Powers
Malachi Carroll	Augustus Barden
Daniel C. Billings	Edward Willard
John McNaughton	Charles A. Heath
Charles W. Heath	Charles Brown
Moses W. Kennison	Thomas Gould
Nathaniel W. Smith	Augustus L. Clark
Webster Gage	James R. Searles
Sebra F. Coffren	Samuel Guest
Wesley Gerrish	

In addition to the two above lists, we also find on the Brownville Roll of Honor, the following names:

Charles F. Rankin	Elbridge Thomas
Elbridge Ryder	Benjamin F. Whitney
Isaac Rogers	Alonzo Willard
John C. Smith	Wilbert Willard
Thomas B. Smith	Luther B. Crosby
Fred P. Thomas	Charles T. Wells
Daniel T. Thomas	Leander S. Coan

Augustus Calkins
 George Calkins
 George Stone
 Fred Merrill
 W. G. Sherburne
 Amasa Stanhope
 Gilbert Brown
 A. B. Berry
 Ezekiel L. Chase
 Calvin Davis
 Emery Dunn
 Francis E. Dunning
 John E. Fogg

William F. Heath
 Bethuel Heath
 John French
 Daniel Howard
 Samuel Johnson
 William Johnson
 Starling Mower
 Isaac Clapp
 Alfred Prescott
 Edward Prescott
 Simon Prescott
 Eben Prescott
 Albert Prescott

WORLD WAR

In April, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany. Brownville sent her quota of men, some of whom gave their lives "over there" to make the world Safe for Democracy. Many fare-well parties were given, as group after group of our boys left for camp and many were the aching hearts left behind.

On November 9, 1918, Brownville's service flag was raised with appropriate exercises in Central Square. Those participating in the exercises were Rev. C. L. Kinney, Rev. A. E. Beaumont, C. H. Dunning, Judge Gerrish and the Boy Scouts. The flag was raised by Amasa Stanhope, a veteran of the Civil War. There are fifty-six stars including two gold stars, for Hugh Nicholl and Bernard Jones. This does not include the later drafts and enlistments. The revised list, not yet complete, stands as follows:

Hugh Nicholl
 Bernard Jones
 Robert C. Berry
 E. Stanley Johnson
 Robert Johnson
 Herbert R. Crandall
 Walter D. McClain
 Erroll E. Estes
 Leroy H. Stineford
 James H. Christie
 Herbert L. Livingston
 Paul P. Arbo

Arthur R. Kelley
 Samuel L. Kelley
 Robert Roberts
 Howard Merrill
 Harry Ellis
 Harold J. Cooney
 William H. McCann
 Claude Stineford
 James N. Taylor
 Harold E. Ames
 A. F. Grant
 Milton Fuller

John R. McCloud	Stanley E. Drake
Harold J. Shaw	John F. Stubbs
Guy E. Shaw	Allie Michaud
Leon McDonald	E. A. Welch
William H. Allen	Charles F. Eames
Dan Decker, Jr.	George E. Lord
Durward Pierce	Peter Dubey
Chester Hills	J. E. Larson
Arthur Roberts	Loring Russell
Robert Prescott	Albert J. Roy
Clarence Gerrish	Andrew Oberg
Charles Clifford	Gunnar Soderberg
Edgar Wells	Guy L. Hodgeman
Paul Kennison	J. E. Page
G. H. Dinsmore	F. R. Barker
Archie Blair	Charles Robinson
Sargie Rugale	Richard Roberts
Arthur E. Davis	Frank L. Jones
B. T. Stone	Gerald Hegarty
J. F. Legassie	

Your Own Town

(Extract from a Western Paper)

Any place is what the men who live in it make it

Don't sit around and damn your town. A town is just as good or just as bad as the people who are damning it.

If any of the towns that any of us live in are not to our liking, why let's get busy—it's all up to us.



BROWNTILLE JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL



BROWNTILLE VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING

Schools

The early schools of Brownville were taught in private houses until the building of a schoolhouse ~~in 1821~~. The early teachers were the preachers and Miss Caroline Pillsbury of Newburyport.

In 1824 Miss Chloe Brown was hired by the town to teach the village school and was paid \$10.50 for a term of fourteen weeks. There were at this time three districts, the first district having as its committee Jesse Rogers, John Whidden and Silas Howard; the second, John Willard, James Rankin and Jonathan Marble; the third, Levi Page, Samuel Gould, and Isaiah Ryder. A little later a fourth district was established.

The present village schoolhouse was erected in 1872 by T. W. Pratt at a cost of about \$3,050. The schoolhouse which had previously occupied this lot was removed to Spring Street and used as a dwelling house. In 1899 the new school building was enlarged. At the present time it is used for all ages from the Primary to the High School.

The Brownville Junction School building was built in 1891 at a cost of \$1,250 and the following year \$300 more was laid out to finish the upper story. This building was burned a few years ago and the town voted to raise \$50,000 for a new schoolhouse. The new building has four rooms for grades and a teacher's room on the first floor and on the second floor an assembly room and three class rooms, one of these being a well equipped laboratory. There is also a gymnasium in the building. A smaller building is used for the Primary grades at the Junction. This, too, is a comparatively new building. Certainly Brownville Junction has reason to be proud of her schools.

We have been unable to mention many of the teachers on account of lack of space, but there was one teacher at the village who taught so many years and who figured so largely in the lives of most of the older ones of the town that we wish to give a small space in our Centennial Book to a sketch of her life here.

Mary Elizabeth Nason was born at Williamsburg, December 31, 1837, in the Peter Morrill house, now owned by E. H. Foulkes.

At the age of sixteen she began teaching and continued in this work for more than forty years. At first she taught a term here and there in different places—on Stickney Ridge, where she "boarded round," at Bradley, to hold down a somewhat riotous

school; at Minneapolis where she went to visit relatives.

She taught in the old schoolhouse at Brownville Village until it was removed to the Hollow, where it now is, to make room for the two story building that replaced it. And from that time till 1894 she taught the younger pupils in the room downstairs, fitting them for the more advanced work upstairs.

Miss Nason was a very efficient teacher, and though somewhat stern in matters of discipline, her pupils were thoroughly drilled in the fundamentals of education and behaviour.

In addition to her school duties, she kept house for her father, and she ever showed herself a devoted daughter. The house now occupied by Ernest Hamlin was built by Moses Nason for their home, and Miss Nason owned it for years after his death.

In her later years she was the recipient of a gift of money from her former pupils and friends. And still later she received a pension from the state for her years of service. In many instances she had numbered both parents and children among her pupils. She died at the home of her niece in Minnesota.

Brownville sends many students to the Colleges and Normal Schools each year. The students attending from Brownville Village last year were as follows:

Harold Gerrish, son of Lewis Gerrish, University of Maine; Charles Johnson, son of Levi Johnson, University of Maine; Leith Chase, son of E. L. Chase, University of Maine; Harold Crozier, son of Fred Crozier, University of Maine; Edgar Crozier, son of W. A. Crozier, University of Maine; Wilder Stickney, son of C. S. Stickney, University of Maine; Nealie Larson, son of Jacob Larson, University of Maine; Herbert Johnson, son of Levi Johnson, Bates College; Doris Foulkes, daughter of Ned Foulkes, Farmington Normal School; Marjorie Davis, daughter of Annie Davis, Farmington Normal School; Carolyn Herrick, daughter of C. E. Herrick, Washington Normal School; Hope Chase, daughter of E. L. Chase, Colby College.

Brownville Junction was represented by the following students at the Colleges and Normal Schools last year:

Claude Stineford, Colby College; Erwin Stineford, Boston University; Joseph F. Keyes, University of Maine; Don Newman, University of Maine; Gwayth Smith, Colby College; Paul Arbo, University of Maine; Ellen Doyle, Machias Normal School; Al-

wilda Bagley, Machias Normal School; Annice McKenzie, Machias Normal School; Elizabeth Roach, Machias Normal School; Norma Leonard, in training at Maine General Hospital; Honorine Maher, in training at a South Boston Hospital; Pauline McClain, in training at Homeopathic Hospital, Boston; Hope Rogers, Chiropractic School, Davenport, Iowa; Pauline Hutchinson, Burdett Business College, Boston; Dorothy Browne, Burdett Business College, Boston; Margaret McCann, Gilman Business College, Bangor.

Church History

The Congregational Church, called in the early days the Church of Christ, held the first meetings in Brownville in 1808 under Rev. Hezekiah May, who was the first Congregational minister to enter the county. Rev. John Sawyer followed Mr. May, acting as teacher and preacher, and also as a missionary among the new settlements.

In 1817, Miss Caroline Pillsbury of Newburyport, Massachusetts, a teacher in Brownville schools, gathered the children into a Sunday School, the second attempted in the county. The following year, 1818, Mr. Welch from Bangor Seminary stirred up quite a religious interest, which resulted in the organization of the Church of Christ in 1819 with the following members—Leonard Shipley, Francis Brown, Isaiah Ryder, Levi Morrill, Isaac E. Wilkins, George Wilkins, Harry Wilkins, Bennett Calkins, Hannah D. Brown, Lydia Morrill and Mary Stickney.

In 1824 a legal town meeting was called to act with the church in inviting Rev. N. W. Sheldon of Bangor Seminary to become their pastor. The town concurred and voted not only to give him the minister's lot but also the whole income of the ministerial fund and \$150 per year to be paid from the town treasury. A similar occurrence cannot be found in the county or even in northern Maine. The town paid this amount and sometimes more during the nine years Mr. Sheldon served them.

In 1827 the name was changed from Church of Christ to Congregational Church. The next regular pastor was Rev. Henry Richardson who came in 1834 and stayed until 1838. It was at this time the need of a meeting house was felt. The village schoolhouse had been used for that purpose. In 1839 the meeting house was completed and stood in the same place the Congregational Church does today. This building was repaired and slated in 1875 and again remodeled in 1901.

METHODIST CHURCH

(Brownville Village)

The Methodist Church of Brownville Village was organized in the living room of the Gerrish farm on the Schoodic Road either in 1834 or 1835. In the year 1839 a meeting house was built near Crocker quarry which was moved in 1850 to its present location.

Pastors of the Brownville Methodist Church supplied Milo for a great many years. Also during the early years Brownville was combined with Kilmarnock (now Medford).

Among the early pastors were Thomas C. Spaulding and later Rev. Charles Southard, 1875-1879, who afterward became Presiding Elder of the Lewiston District in the Maine Conference, and J. A. Morelen, 1879, during whose pastorate the parsonage was sold and the money used to slate the church. In 1900 the present parsonage was built at a cost of \$1,200. This was during the pastorate of George J. Palmer.

The church was remodeled in 1911 when Rev. J. E. Montgomery was pastor. The parsonage was repaired this same year and the improvements made have added much to the value of the property. The newly repaired church was dedicated in 1912, Bishop Hamilton of Boston preaching the dedication sermon.

The Methodist Sewing Circle was organized a few years after the construction of the church and has been a great help to the church. It would be hard to find a band of more energetic workers than the ladies of the Brownville Sewing Circle of the Methodist Church and we are proud of the fact that our grandmother, Laura A. Gerrish, was an officer of this society for over fifty years.

METHODIST CHURCH

(Brownville Junction)

In the fall of 1892, Mr. Curtis from Brownville Village, held the first Protestant services in the schoolhouse at Brownville Junction through the influence of a few interested people. The following spring, 1893, the church agreeing to pay one hundred dollars for the year, conference sent Rev. Mr. Page, who served faithfully that year and until July 17, 1894, when he was called to the higher life. After his death, Rev. Mr. York came and

stayed a few weeks and then Mr. Norman LaMarsh, evangelist, spent a week here interesting a number of people. This was in August, 1894, and the following February he returned, baptized four people, organized the Sunday School and formed the foundation of the Methodist Church.

In 1895, Rev. David R. Pierce was the pastor, leaving in July, 1896, to take up evangelical work. Rev. George Martin followed him and then came Mr. Green and Mr. Palmer, followed by Rev. George Stott under whose administration the present church was built.

There are two societies in connection with the church, the M. E. Club, which has contributed toward the support of the church for nineteen years, and the Helping Hand, contributing for eight years.

HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(Brownville Junction)

In 1892 the first Catholic Church was built under the direction of the late Rev. Father Trudell of Old Town. Previous to the erection of this church, Mass was celebrated in the home of the late William Finn.

The present church was built in 1914 by the present Pastor, Rev. P. A. Hayes of Dover-Foxcroft and dedicated July, 1915, by the late Right Rev. Bishop Louis S. Walsh.

The Pastors who had charge of this Mission were Rev. Fr. Trudell of Old Town, Rev. Peter Bradley, Rev. Fr. Healy and Rev. John W. Houlihan of Dexter, Rev. Martin A. Clary and Rev. Matthew Rielly of Millinocket.

The church is free from debt which shows the efficient management of the present Pastor, Rev. P. A. Hayes.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Brownville Junction)

More than twenty years ago, (1890-1892) the Central Maine Mission was organized in a box car on a siding at Henderson, now Brownville Junction.

From this small beginning in that freight car by a missionary, surrounded by a few faithful souls who had cast their lot in the great Maine woods has grown a comfortable church building,

and a nicely furnished rectory for the home of the missionary. The number of communicants, during the life of the mission, has grown from six to four hundred. Many of those who were united to the church here, through the influence of this box-car-mission, have long since gone to join a more enduring union with saints triumphant. Many more have gone elsewhere to strengthen the whole body of the church militant.

At the present time the mission is in charge of Rev. J. W. Barker.



Railroad Y. M. C. A.

The beginning of Railroad Y. M. C. A. work at Brownville Junction dates back to the fall of 1917 when the sod was turned for the erection of this splendid, modernly equipped building. The placing of a building here by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was the outgrowth of successful work carried on by the Y. M. C. A. through a long period of years at many of the important divisional points on the company's lines. It is the result of cooperation of railroad employees, the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Young Men's Christian Association. The em-

ployees provide about sixty per cent. of the funds expended annually. They manage the organization through their committees and direct its activities in helpful channels. The railway company provides cooperative aid and seeks through the railroad "Y" to render an adequate program to meet the physical, social and moral needs of the employee and the community at large.

The Christian motive runs through all the work of the Railroad Department of the Y. M. C. A. It is just this that differentiates it from the organizations commonly known as Railroad Clubs. Every part of the work of the association is religious in the best sense. The full measure of the association purpose would not be fulfilled if it failed to carry on a direct and vigorous and intelligent Christian propaganda.

The first secretary of the association was Mr. John H. Henry who served from the beginning of the work until August, 1919. Mr. Henry was succeeded by Mr. James L. Hay. Under the leadership of these two men the work has prospered and the Railroad Y. M. C. A. continues to be an ever increasing force for good in the district it serves.

Professional Men

Dr. Isaac E. Wilkins was probably the first professional man to settle in Brownville. Dr. Wilkins was also a chainman in a survey party which measured the distance on a straight line to Canada. Among the Centennial exhibits at Grange Hall is the chain used by Dr. Wilkins and now owned by Gardner Wilkins, a great-grandson of Dr. Wilkins. In 1868, Dr. L. B. Crosby located in Brownville and for a number of years was the only professional man in town, except the clergymen. Later Dr. Mark Alward came and stayed a number of years. Other physicians to locate in Brownville were Dr. T. H. McDonough and Dr. D. L. Harden, both of whom are now practicing at Brownville Junction. Among the early doctors at the Junction were Dr. Martin, Dr. Boothbay and Dr. Hayes.

LAWYERS

The first lawyer to locate in Brownville was M. W. McIntosh of Milo, who came about 1889. He remained in town until 1894

when he removed to San Francisco. Mr. McIntosh was followed by Edgar C. Smith in 1896. Mr. Smith stayed a few years and then moved to Dover, where he followed his profession until he was appointed Deputy Secretary of State, which office he now holds. After Mr. Smith left, W. H. Monroe, a native of Milo, located here for the practice of law. Mr. Monroe, now deceased, represented the Brownville class in the Legislature one term. Later he moved to Milo and was elected Judge of Probate which office he held at the time of his death. At the present time Brownville has one lawyer, Hiram Gerrish, a native of the town, who began the practice of law here in 1901. Mr. Gerrish was appointed by Governor Plaisted Judge of the Municipal Court and reappointed by Governor Curtis. At present he is County Attorney of Piscataquis County.

DENTISTS

Among the professional men of Brownville for a number of years was Charles Stanhope, a dentist. Dr. Stanhope had an office in the Briggs Block, and did a good business. Dr. Stanhope is now located in Bangor, where he has a large practice.

Industries of Brownville

The internal resources of Brownville have been such as to bring the town into the foreground since its first settlement. The wonderful pine forests were the first source of wealth, and the rich, soil, suitable for farming, added to the income of the early settlers.

The first manufacturing industries of Brownville were the grist and lumber mills established by Francis Brown in 1806 and operated for nearly a hundred years by the Browns and their successors.

In 1866 the water privilege was bought by Judson Briggs who brought in a few French families as employees. He operated the mills until 1870 when he sold the mill site and privilege on the west side of the river to Edward, William and Oliver Nason. The Nasons were here for three years and built the houses in which A. A. Price and E. H. Russell now live.

In 1873, they sold the mill privilege on the west side of the river to Homan Johnson.

Homan[^] Johnson set up a plant for manufacture of shovel handles, Waterman Hamlin acting as superintendent. Later Charles Johnson, son of Homan Johnson, moved in and took over the supervision of the factory.

About 1881 a match factory superseded the shovel handle industry under charge of Johnson & Clough. This firm operated six or seven years.

In 1894, J. Lewis & Sons of Truro, N. S., bought the water-power on both sides of the river and started an electric lighting plant on the east side of the river, and a branch wood-working mill on the west side under the name of the U. S. Peg-Wood & Shank Co., pegwood and wood shanks being their chief output. In 1899 the mill burned but was at once rebuilt, and shortly after, an additional building erected on the south side of the road. In 1915, the factory was again destroyed by fire and again rebuilt as at present. Employees came here from the vicinity of Truro when the factory was first started, some of whom have married and remained here.

As early as 1828, the Hon. Moses Greenleaf discovered a vein of slate extending across the county in the eighth range under the soil of Brownville and towns west of Brownville.

In 1866, the Highland Quarry was opened by Walter Morrill, Richard Hughes and Henry Jones. After a short time they sold it to a Bangor Company who contracted for its operation. Walter Morrill ran it under contract, and later Chandler operated it the same way. Afterward the Williams Slate Company ran it, making mill stock. It is now owned by the Portland Monson Slate Company.

The Williams Slate Company was organized by William D., Richard and Moses Williams, brothers. It operated not far from the Highland Quarry.

Many other smaller quarries were opened, one near Otis Abbee's, another at Jaquith Pond, and one in the Stickney pasture.

For the greater part of that time, Mesach Jones was superintendent of the work. Edward Hughes and James Humphreys were among the first ledgemen, and continued at the work the balance of their working years.

In 1876, the Merrill Quarry sent roofing slate to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, and received a medal for quality. This medal may be seen among the exhibits at Grange Hall, Centennial week.

2 paragraphs omitted

Inserted in wrong place

Many Welshmen came to the quarries in the earlier years, nearly all of whom bought homes and settled in the community.

Following the Civil War, Mr. Merrill introduced a colony of negroes to work in his quarry. But the climate was too harsh for them and they returned to their native land, Dick King's family being the last to go, in 1879.

Several years later, a great many Swedish people were employed in the quarries, many of whom have made their homes with us and share with us the duties and privileges of our citizenship.

Years later the Highland Quarries were opened and successfully operated for many years.

We hope in the near future to see all these quarries, which certainly contain a wealth of slate, opened and operated.

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#### ~~BRAUN'S MILL~~

At the present time Braun's Mills at North Brownville are running. They make lawn mower handles and rollers.

The coming of the Canadian Pacific Railway shops to Brownville Junction has made employment for a large number of people.

The Bangor & Aroostook Railroad also passes through the town and has furnished employment for many Brownville men.

Various other industries have been undertaken during the town's history. Among them might be mentioned John Gould's shop and turning lathe for furniture making, Eliot Powers' furniture shop, Jesse Tibbetts' brickyard in North Brownville, Ed Lamson's shop for making carts and wagons, J. Gillis' manufacture of broom handles, McClain's canoe manufacture, and E. H. Gould's printing plant.

Especial mention might be made of the Tannery. Previous to 1846 there were two tan pits near the river bank on the west side. About that time a tannery was built by Jefferson Lake on the bank of Whetstone Brook near the old Rankin place. The following accounts supply dates:

1847

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Augst. 16, 3 days on dam        | 3.00  |
| Sept. 13, 13½ days on Tannery   | 13.50 |
| Octo. 14, 3 days on Tannery     | 3     |
| Novem. 5, 9 days at the Tannery | 9.00  |



1848

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Apr. 22, 3 days on the Tannery | 3.00 |
|--------------------------------|------|

1849

|                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Augst. 26, 2¼ days on Bark mill | 1.75 |
|---------------------------------|------|

In connection with this tannery, Mr. Lake maintained a boot and shoe manufactory, in the building where the post office now is, and where at that time he had a mercantile business. In 1850, he sold the mercantile business to Moses Brown and discontinued the tannery and shoe factory.

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### Traders of Brownville

Deacon Francis Brown was the first trader in town. As early as 1823 he kept store in a barn attached to his house on Brown's Hill. In 1830, E. A. Jenks became a partner with him in a larger store, which they built near the village.

A few years later Jefferson Lake, who was in the lumber business, opened another store. Other traders kept coming in, among whom we find S. A. Smith, a trader for over fifty years, C. L. Dunning, who began trading in 1852 and continued until 1902, and at Brownville Junction, A. C. Dougherty, who was in business from 1889 to 1911.



At the present time the traders at the village are C. W. Parker, J. P. Crandlemire, Mrs. M. C. Chase, Earl Gerrish, S. H. Cohen, Mrs. S. H. Cohen and C. M. Foulkes.

At Brownville Junction we find The Gerry Company doing business in the store formerly owned by A. C. Dougherty, P. M. Jones doing business in the store formerly run by Moses Herrick and later by Henry Williams, E. H. Bemis, R. R. McClain, S. I. Kaminsky, Brownville Junction Baking Company, Lemay's Restaurant, Mrs. Dinsmore, Miss Nie, Mrs. Dickenson, Charles Robinson, S. H. Cohen and Russell & Gould.

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### Scraps of Information

Isaac E. Wilkins, son of Dr. Wilkins, attended Bangor Theological Seminary in 1825.

In 1831, voted in town meeting to raise \$30.00 toward church support. Any tax payer, by filling a written request, could be exempted.

Tileston Snow came to Brownville in 1833 and had a small shop where he made household furniture.

July 27, 1848, a tornado blew down seven barns and uprooted many large trees in ~~North~~ Brownville.

Robert Evans came to Brownville about <sup>1836</sup>~~1840~~ and began testing slate.

The large barn on the Cheston Davis farm was moved from the Crocker Quarry, ninety-two yoke of oxen being the propelling power.

In 1840, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davis went to Massachusetts, making the journey by sailing vessel from Augusta, and were on the water three weeks. So much did they suffer from seasickness that they bought a horse and returned by land, being on the road two weeks. They brought the first matches to Brownville.

In 1845, the Katahdin Iron Works was built.

In 1846, Merrill's Quarry was opened.

Walter G. Morrill was the only survivor in 1911 of the fifty four men leaving Brownville May 1st, 1861.

Eber Davis Thomas was a member of the first class ever graduated from the University of Maine.

In 1881, the B. & A. Station opened in Brownville. George Herrick was the first station agent. He served faithfully for thirty-five years, under Superintendents Cram, McLaughlin, Todd, Brown, Sr., and Brown, Jr. He also served as express agent during the greater part of this time.

Judson Briggs' barn was struck by lightning in 1899, resulting in the destruction of two houses and four barns.

Daniel Howard sent six sons to the Civil War, Hiram, his brother, sent four, John, another brother, sent one.

Eleanor Thomas, mother of Ichabod Thomas, died at Brownville, June 24, 1823, aged 95 years and nine months. She was one of the first to be buried in Brownville Cemetery.

Hiram Gerrish came to Brownville in 1823. He cleared up a farm on the Schoodic Road where he lived until his death, November 9, 1888. He was twice married, and had a family of seventeen children, eleven boys and six girls.

Elisha Johnson came to Brownville, in ~~1812~~<sup>1824</sup>, bringing his family on horse back, his wife having one child strapped to her back while she held the younger one in her arms.

Ichabod Thomas presented his son's wife with a lady's saddle on her wedding day. This saddle will be found among the exhibits at Grange Hall, on Centennial Days.

In 1875, the Calliopean Baseball Club was organized in Brownville. In the many years the Calliopeans played ball, they never lost a game. Many of the stories we hear about the Calliopeans at the present time, are almost unbelievable, yet it is a recorded fact that this team has never had an equal in this section.

In 1905, a Library Association was organized through the instrumentality of Rev. D. S. Pugh and Mrs. Pugh, aided by others.

In 1829, Isaac Jacquith, his wife and family of five young children came to Brownville by ox team bringing household goods with them.

In 1899, the Welsh Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. David Pugh, who came as a missionary. Meetings were held in Grange Hall.

In 1813, Nicholas Berry came to Brownville, bringing his wife and seven children, and settled near what is called Lake View.

In 1838, Piscataquis County was formed, taking four tiers of townships from Penobscot and three from Somerset County.



## Historical Data



In 1803, Park Holland of Bangor surveyed the town and divided it into lots for Joseph Blake. Blake being unable to complete the terms of settlement, the land reverted to the state and was afterward sold to Major Hills and Moses Brown of Newburyport.

In 1806 Francis Brown (nephew of Moses Brown) was sent by the proprietors to build a dam and mills—the second mills in the county. Work finished by fall and Major Hills moved in and took charge of them and Francis Brown ~~took the lots to sell.~~ *returned to Massachusetts*

(Major Hills afterward sold out to Brown and removed to a farm, and later the family removed to Bangor.)

In 1808, Dr. Isaac Wilkins moved in, the first practising physician in the county.

In 1808, Rev. Hezekiah May sent and sustained by the proprietors to teach and preach. Remained six years. Graduate of Yale. First Congregational minister to enter county. Built a frame house on what afterward became the "Brown Place."

In 1819, August 25th, Council convened and organized a church. The following October Father Sawyer administered communion and baptized six children, in the Brown stable, then new.

In 1825, Brownville was incorporated as a town and held its first town meeting. Of course there had been plantation meetings before.

In 1828, Moses Greenleaf (Judge of the Superior Sessions of Penobscot County) discovered slate beneath the soil of Brownville and the towns lying in the same range. Robert Evans, a Welshman, investigated the slate, comparing it with samples of slate from the famous Penrhyn Quarries of Wales.

About 1830 lumbering flourished, great rafts of it being floated down the river to Bangor.

In 1843, the first quarry was opened. This brought in a good number of Welsh people, first, men alone, and later families who settled here permanently and whose descendants are still here.

In 1861-1865, we sent a large number of soldiers to the Civil War. Probably there are 150 buried in our cemetery.



About 1867-1879, ten families of negroes were here, arrangements for their living having been made between A. H. Merrill, quarry owner, and General O. O. Howard of the Freedmen's Bureau who visited the town for that purpose. The negroes worked in the quarry but the climate was too harsh for them, and they left, a few at a time.

In 1881, the Katahdin Iron Works branch of the Bangor & Piscataquis Railway passed through the town. Previous to that, slate and other freight had been hauled, first to Bangor, and later to Milo Junction.

In 1888, the Canadian Pacific Railway passed through Brownville. As a result, the town increased in population, doubling its growth, on account of the Machine Shops located at Brownville Junction. We now have two villages with schools, churches, &c.

In 1894, the Bangor & Aroostook Railway passed through Brownville, connecting the town with the Northern part of the state.

In 1914, the World War called our young men to the front. When the first Canadian troops passed through Brownville Junction on their way to the east (via C. P. R.) the train stopped and two companies of Maine soldiers who were in camp at Brownville met them, and the Canadian and Maine troops were photographed together under the different flags.



### Schoodic Lake

(By Cora Arbo, a North Brownville resident)

Like some bright gem the lovely Schoodic lies,  
Maine's fairest lake, reflecting azure skies;  
Across her bosom at the close of day  
The great blue heron slowly wings its way;  
And from yon cove where dark spruce meets the sky,  
Comes back the northern diver's lonely cry.

In days long past, across the waters blue,  
The red man's paddle urged his light canoe;  
Along the shore, when summer moons were late,  
The Indian hunter wooed his dusky mate;  
And warrior eyes enkindled at the sight  
When the wind capped the tossing waves with white.

Today the white man treads the forest floor  
Or guides his boat to lonely island shore;  
His eye with wonder brightens at the view  
Of distant mountains throned against the blue;  
And his heart thrills as woodland echoes wake  
To sing thy praise, O lovely Schoodic Lake.

---

### Ebeeme

(By H. L. Koopman)

Upon its heaving shallows the anchored lilies nod,  
Greeting the purple asters and plummy golden-rod;  
Hushed are the summer's voices its uproar and its song,  
All but the picket challenge the shy crows pass along.  
With bow-string twang the wild-fowl wing hence their arrow-flight  
What time the full moon lingers above the floor of night.  
While, last of summer's tokens, new-born to feebler glow,  
Like love in old age quickened, the dandelions blow.

Oh, lovely is the springtime, with fragrance of new life,  
And lovely is the summer, with song and hue at strife,  
But blessings smile at parting, the year is then most fair,  
When its low summons calls it, far whispering down the air.  
'Tis then on all Ebeeme comes down a wondrous light,  
Faint golden mists by daytime, the golden moon by night;  
Then all Ebeeme's waters, on every wooded strand,  
Are drenched with light no sunset stole yet from Elfin-Land.

For now is heaven nearer; through all the woodland round,  
No bush but hath its angel, and burneth without sound;  
No sound there is, yet voices are haunting all the air,  
And some have said, who listened, that God spake with them there.

---

# THE HISTORICAL PAGEANT

of

## BROWNVILLE, MAINE

Produced at the Centennial Celebration of the Town of Brownville

August 15 and 16, 1924



Entire Pageant Staged by  
John B. Rogers Producing Company of  
Fostoria, Ohio



### Pageant Staff

PAGEANT MASTER: Sid T. Kelly.

ASSISTANTS: Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. Hiram Gerrish, Mrs. W. G.  
Hagarty.

LOCAL HISTORY: Mrs. John Lewis.

ACCOMPANISTS: Miss Marjorie Davis, Roland Jones.

ORCHESTRA: Rollins' Syncopators.

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## THE PAGEANT—PROGRAM

### List of Characters

Miss Brownville

Columbia,

Father Time

Pioneer Man

Pioneer Woman

Fever

Famine

Death

Spirit of the Wilderness

Solo Dancer

Indian Chief

Maine

Canada

Dorothy Gerrish

Alma V. McNeil

Claude Stineford

Ted Berg

Pauline Green

Cornelia Adair

Gladys Marshall

Robert Pierce

Carolyn Herrick

Edna Cohen

Will Thomas

Mrs. Paul Ryder

Grace E. McNeil

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### PROLOGUE

ARRIVAL OF MISS BROWNVILLE AND HER ATTENDANTS—Beauty, National Pride, Strength, Patriotism, Peace, Courage, Faith, Hope, Liberty, Health, Wealth, Thrift, Tolerance.

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### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

My fellow citizens: In the name of the inhabitants of this goodly village and in honor of this occasion, as we meet to celebrate in pageantry the one hundredth anniversary of Brownville, I bid you one and all a most cordial welcome. The poet has truly said:

"Oh, East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,  
Until they stand together at God's great judgment seat;  
But there's neither East nor West, nor border, nor creed, nor birth,  
When two strong men stand face to face though they come from the ends of  
the earth."

And so whether you were born within the ancient boundaries of Brownville united with those who compose this brotherhood into one great family of our union, or whether you have come from some other town, city, state, or country, and are here present to enjoy with us this celebration, in the name of the village of Brownville, I address you as fellow citizens and bid you one and all a most cordial welcome.

---

ARRIVAL OF MISS COLUMBIA AND THE FORTY EIGHT STATES. Welcome, welcome, Columbia and you, her faithful daughters, the fair states, welcome to Brownville and the Historical Pageant of Brownville.

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### Interlude One—Prophecy of Time

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#### FATHER TIME, THE PROPHET

"I came I know not whence,  
I go, I know not whither,  
Eyes of things created never  
Upon my coming looked, nor shall it see my passing.  
First and last of all things, I,  
For I am Time.  
Look ye upon the Dawning of Creation.  
Called Universe.  
When out of chaos, order is brought,  
You will see the birth of sky, flowers, land,  
And last Man—the Red Man."

## EPISODE ONE

---

### 1. THE DAWNING OF CREATION—Creation, Flowers, Sky and Land Girls.

NOTE—Just as everything is in perfect harmony with the creation growing in its merry play, the voice of man is heard. This breaks the stilled harmony of nature and in gross confusion the Creation Spirits run and hide under cover of the forest.

### 2. THE COMING OF THE INDIANS—Indian Camp and Primitive Occupations.

NOTE—When this land was discovered it had been inhabited by the Red Man. Where this race came from, how many years it had dwelt here and what people it replaced has been a question of much dispute. There are historians who believe that the Indians were preceded by another race who built beautiful palaces and large cities, which long ago have crumbled into the dust. Others suppose that mounds and various evidences of an earlier occupation were the works of ancestors of these Indians. Therefore, with no direct knowledge or evidence at hand of the ancestry of the Indians, their coming is merely symbolic.

The Penobscot Indians had a camp above here some distance and used to paddle on these waters in search of additional game and fish. The camp which is depicted in such a one as would be built when on one of these expeditions, their permanent camps were more substantial and the small tepees which they carried were nothing as compared with the mighty wigwams which graced the banks of the river a little farther up. The dance which the braves will execute around the fire is not a war dance but a prayer dance, an invocation, to the Great Spirit to grant them abundant game and fish while on their expedition. They did not paint their faces except when at war. After the ceremonies are completed, they return to the river and proceed on their way.



## EPISODE TWO

### PIONEERS—Early Settlers

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NOTE—John Heath was one of the first, being a trapper and hunter. The date of his arrival is uncertain but it must have been about 1794. The next arrival of importance was Francis Brown, who came with a crew of six men by boat in 1806 to erect a dam and start mills. By fall of that year the mills were finished and Major Hills came with his wife, two sons and three daughters to take charge. Brown is to undertake to sell the lots. In 1808, Dr. Isaac Wilkins moved in. He was the first practising physician in the county. Elisha Johnson and his wife with two children arrived by horse, having followed a blazed trail through the woods. A minister, Rev. Hezekiah May, was sent by the proprietors to teach and preach. He remained six years. Samuel Stickney was the first mail man. He walked from Brownville to Bangor for the mail and frequently made purchase for the inhabitants of Brownville. His fee for such a service was ninepence.

### The First Baptism

In 1819, Father Sawyer, a missionary preacher arrived and administered communion and baptised six children.

---

### Interlude Two

### FATHER TIME

“The Powers of the Forest and the Powers of the River which menace them  
always,

Had to be conquered and bent to their will,  
With danger encircling by day and by night,

Here lit their hearth fires to gleam through the years,  
Clear as a beacon light.”

### EPISODE THREE

#### THE PIONEER CONQUERING THE FOREST DANCE OF THE WILDERNESS

1. This is a symbolical dance representing the Spirit of the Wilderness in its most playful mood, with the Powers of the River, the Powers of the Forest, and Mist, merrily dance in the forest.

2. Conquering the Forest. The sufferings of the settlers. the hindrance of the Forests, Rivers, and Mists. Also the ravages of Fever, Famine and Death were finally surmounted until eventually in the Spirit of the West, the pioneers conquered. This episode is purely symbolical.

---

#### Interlude Three

#### FATHER TIME

“Witness here ye days of old  
See their homes and tents unfold,  
Glad of hearts and records read  
Of high courage, faithful deed,  
As men build their home and town  
Coming in from miles around.  
Years of growth and power to stand  
A goodly town in a mighty land.”

---

### EPISODE FOUR

#### INCORPORATION AND NAMING OF TOWN

In 1825, application was made to the Commonwealth for a charter making Brownville a town. The settlement had been known for some time as “Brown’s Mills” and in the corporation papers the name was spelled without the final “e.”

## EPISODE FIVE

DISCOVERY OF SLATE AND COMING OF THE WELSH  
FAMILIES

In 1828, Judge Greenleaf discovered slate beneath the soil which he had Robert Evans examine. This slate corresponded very closely to the slate from the Penrhyn quarries of Wales. The Welsh understanding the quarrying of slate, several families were brought here to work the range. They were very fond of music ~~and sang a lot~~. All their songs, however, were sad and spoke of their homesickness for their native land, Wales.

---

## Interlude Four

“And so a town was born to live  
And to this place a name we give—Brownville!  
So away with care  
Let every heart with quickened fervor glow,  
While we brush the dust from bygone years and  
Bid the records show the  
Honored deeds of those lived many years ago.  
Fads and fancies of yesterdays,  
With time have evolved in many ways,  
Customs and styles have seen a change  
In courtships and dancing, but  
Youth still supremely reigns.”

---

## EPISODE SIX

## THE CIVIL WAR

When President Lincoln sent the call for men in 1861, we were ready and our young men rushed to join the colors. The recruits were drilled here on the village green by Moses Brown. They were known as the Brownville Rifles and marched to Bangor by way of Dover, gathering additional recruits on the way. They were cheered by the populace as they drilled and this episode closes with the Virginia Reel and the farewell to the troops.



**EPISODE SEVEN****THE C. P. R. AND BROWNVILLE JUNCTION**

In 1887 the Canadian Pacific Railroad asked and received permission to pass through the state. This brought a railroad to Brownville and as a result the town increased in population. Machine shops being located three miles from Brownville, a settlement was made there known as Brownville Junction. We now have two villages with schools, churches, &c.

---

INTERMISSION—10 Minutes

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**Interlude Five****FATHER TIME**

“Now that the book of records is closed,  
And in them the deeds of old repose,  
Let us then turn to your enlightened age  
And see the wonders of today displayed.  
I’ve seen the birth of man,  
Seen how through strife and strain man struggled on,  
I’ve seen him with trials and tears  
Man rises still and learns that he is Soul,  
For I am Time.”

---

**EPISODE EIGHT****THE MELTING POT OF THE NATIONS**

A mammoth spectacle symbolizing the spirit and growth of America, the melting pot of the nations, where people from every corner of the earth unite and are amalgamated into one and an inseparable nation.

Character dances of every nation will be given with correct costumes for every country, from the smallest to the mightiest.

### Centennial Committees

---

On May 6, 1924, the following Committees were appointed by L. F. Johnson, Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. John Humphreys and C. E. Herrick, the General Committee:

POLICE FORCE: Two Fire Companies.

STREET PARADE: J. P. Crandlemire and R. R. Johnson.

EXHIBITS: C. S. Stickney and Mrs. Wallace Tufts.

MUSIC: James Hay, Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. Wallace McQuarrie and Hiram Gerrish.

FOOD: W. A. Crozier, A. A. Price and E. G. Ryder.

SPORTS: E. L. Chase and Joseph Ross.

PUBLICITY: Hiram Gerrish and George Howard.

DECORATIONS: A. A. Price and E. G. Ryder.

SIGNS: Clarence Parker and T. Weymouth.

GROUNDS: W. A. Crozier, J. P. Crandlemire, C. E. Herrick.

PAGEANT: Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. Hiram Gerrish and Mrs. W. G. Hagarty.

PAGEANT GROUND COMMITTEE: E. L. Chase, A. C. Wolfe, Paul Arbo, Kenneth McLeod, A. G. Strout, A. A. Price, Max Reilly, William Edmondson, Ernest Knight, W. A. Crozier, C. E. Herrick and J. P. Crandlemire.

### Scraps of Information

#### CONTINUED

Cwen Williams came to Brownville in 1847. He went to Wales in 1850 and returned in 1851, bringing his wife. They had a family of seven children. Mr. Williams worked in Crocker Quarry for a great many years, but finally gave up this work to devote his time to farming. One of his daughters, Mrs. Susie Owen, now lives on the Williams farm where all of the children were born.

Samuel Stickney, who was one of the early settlers, was employed for a time to carry the mail between Bangor and Brownville. He traveled on foot and was in the habit of doing errands for the settlers. It is said that at one time he was engaged to bring a grindstone from Bangor, which he cheerfully did, and when asked what he charged, he replied "ninepence, all I ever ask for doing an errand."

Among the exhibits at Mrs. M. C. Chase's store will be shown on Centennial Days many old relics of great value to their owners. Drop in and look them over.

The Merrill Quarry was operated for sixty years without being shut down except temporarily, during the frost periods.

The first train that did construction work in Brownville Junction, for the Canadian Pacific Railway, operated in the early summer of 1888, by a crew consisting of Charles Laskey, Engineer, J. F. Hughes, Fireman, F. A. Lawton, Conductor, John Hodgman and Cyrus Lawton, Brakemen.

The first Canadian Pacific Railway train that came through from the West arrived at Brownville Junction, July 22, 1888, operated by Elmer Ames, Engineer, W. E. Rutherford, Fireman, F. A. Lawton, Conductor, G. W. Foster and Cyrus Lawton, Brakemen. This train also did construction work.

The first Canadian Pacific Railway passenger train arrived in Brownville Junction from the West, June 3, 1889. Joseph R. Crandall was the Engineer coming in and James McKlusky was the Engineer who took the train East. Peter Lefebvre was Conductor.

There are many old houses in Brownville. Among them are the Dr. Crosby house situated on Pleasant Street and for many



years vacated ; the house now owned by Jacob Larson and formerly owned by the Willard family, the Calvin Davis house, the Stephen Thomas house and the house owned by Benjamin Harris, which was moved from Brown's Hill, being formerly the Francis Brown house. Doubtless there are others but these have been brought to our attention. Most of those mentioned are over a hundred years old.

The first dwelling house that was constructed in Brownville Junction was built in the year of 1888 by J. F. Hughes. It is a portion of the residence of Thomas Williams.



## THE FEATURE ATTRACTION

at the

## BROWNVILLE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

is the

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**BROWNVILLE, MAINE**



.... ERRATA ....



The first Mills were at Sebec.

Dr. Wilkins had only one daughter.

---

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**T**O the Canadian Pacific  
Railway which has add-  
ed so greatly to the develop-  
ment of our town during the  
past thirty-five years, we ded-  
icate this page of our Centen-  
nial Book.

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